



EBT NEWS

County of Los Angeles
Department of Public
Social Services

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EBT IS COMING



LEADER Leading the Way to EBT

LEADER Division has been working in collaboration with many people, including Departmental staff, State EBT representatives, the Statewide EBT Vendor (Citicorp), and the LEADER Contractor to develop LEADER modifications for EBT. Toward that end, District staff participated in EBT Joint Application De-

velopment (JAD) and Design Specification Development (DSD) sessions late last year to ensure that the LEADER changes for EBT support staff and participant needs.

Changes include an online interface with the EBT system. This will permit LEADER to display up-to-date information from the EBT system directly on a LEADER screen. Additionally, District Cashiers will be able to send emergency benefits and card requests directly from LEADER screens immediately to the EBT system, without having to manually enter information into another system.

EBT FLIER

A flier has been developed as part of the outreach to provide advanced notification to the public about EBT. The flier provides information that EBT is coming in Summer 2003 to Food Stamp participants in the Metro East and South Central district offices. Distribution of the flier was made this month and went to district offices, community colleges, community agencies and contracted benefit issuance outlets for display. Look for an Admin. Memo about this soon!

EBT Implementation Workgroups Formed

EBT is a tremendous project -- in fact so huge that it has resulted in the formation of sixteen (16) workgroups. Each workgroup is designed to facilitate implementation for Los Angeles County. **Bureau of Workforce Services (BWS)**, leads the EBT Implementation Support Workgroup. Their primary function is to provide enhanced line support in areas such as public forums, participant training and in making recommendations for policies and procedures affecting district operations.

Departmentally, we are now on a fast track toward pilot implementation, meeting nearly every day, solidly on target with our tasks. We are closely monitoring the preparation of the two pilot offices, Metro East and South Central. All districts are receiving updates at BWS managers meetings and at every possible juncture.

We anticipate a smooth and efficient transition to EBT in the pilot districts followed by all BWS offices!

FOOD STAMP STAGGER DAY

Currently, cash participants signed up for Direct Deposit have a stagger day of the first of the month for both cash and food stamps. Once EBT is implemented, the food stamp stagger day will be changed to the day that coincides with the last digit of the LEADER/Legacy Case Number. The Legacy Case Number is used for case numbers beginning with P through U, just as we do currently with LA FAIR. All direct deposit participants will receive a notice about their stagger day for cash and their stagger day for food stamps before the assigned district implements EBT.

Group Homes

August is the target date for Metro-East and South Central districts to begin the EBT pilot program. This month, training will be provided to Group Home providers to let them know how food stamp benefits will be accessed, using EBT, for participants in group homes.

